



Congressman Paul E. Gillmor

THE GILLMOR BULLETIN

July 2004

CONTACT CONGRESSMAN
PAUL E. GILLMOR

In Washington:

1203 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-6405

In Ohio:

96 South Washington
Street, Suite 400
Tiffin, OH 44883
419-448-9016

613 West Third Street
Defiance, OH 43512
419-782-1996

130 Shady Lane Drive
Norwalk, OH 44857
419-668-0206

Toll Free in Ohio:

Phone: 1-800-541-6446
Fax: 1-800-278-8203

Online:

www.house.gov/gillmor

Via Email:

paul.gillmor@mail.house.gov

Gillmor Washington Update

As your Representative in Congress, I am proud to represent Ohio's Fifth Congressional District here in Washington, DC.

In order to keep the citizens of the Fifth District better informed and up to date on my activities in Washington, DC and back home in Ohio, I have published this fifth edition of my monthly newsletter. It is my goal to provide you with the information you need to stay informed on the issues important to Ohio. In this edition of my Monthly Update, I have focused on the important events that have taken place in the month of June and inform you of upcoming July events in the Fifth District. I hope that you will find this information beneficial. Please contact me should you have any questions or comments.

Protecting the Environment: Brownfields Revitalization

As I continue to monitor the effectiveness of the implementation of my Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, signed into law in 2002, I was very pleased to learn that over 260 applicants will receive approximately \$75 million in brownfields grants. These grants help communities clean up blighted areas, allowing those contaminated properties to return to productive use, and furthering local economies.



Brownfields redevelopment is a tangible example of good economic renewal and careful environmental restoration being compatible goals. Brownfields cleanup projects are a "win-win" for creating jobs, controlling urban sprawl, and protecting our environment.

Brownfields grants are the main funding feature of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) program to restore lightly contaminated hazardous waste sites. Assessments and cleanup grants are awarded in amounts up to \$200,000 per site.

Revolving Loan Fund Grants, used to capitalize loans used to cleanup brownfields, are awarded in amounts up to \$1 million.

I was particularly pleased that in the EPA's announcement, Ohio was awarded

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\$5 million for assessment and cleanup grants, as well as revolving loan grants at eight (8) sites. This type of funding is the perfect bridge between our industrial legacy and our economic future.

Last year, the first year this law was in effect, the U.S. Conference of Mayors reported the redevelopment of 10,000 acres of urban land, a boost in tax revenue of at least \$790 million, and the creation of 570,000 jobs. I look forward to seeing the same promising results from this year's efforts as well.

As Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, I plan to continue monitoring this important program with an oversight hearing sometime this summer.

Protecting Shareholders: Mutual Fund Reform

Throughout my years in Congress, the rights of the American shareholder have remained foremost in my mind when considering important reforms in the mutual fund industry.

In response to the ongoing scandals in the mutual fund industry and the Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) evaluation of their current regulatory structure, on June 3, I introduced the Mutual Funds Reform Act (MFRA). This important legislation details the necessary reforms to combat recent abuses and strengthen the mutual funds industry. The MFRA will make fund governance accountable, require genuinely transparent total fund costs, enhance comprehension and comparison of fund fees, confront trading abuses, create a culture of compliance, prohibit certain conflicts of interest, and eliminate hidden transactions that drive up costs. The effects of the legislation would be far reaching, saving billions of dollars for the 95 million Americans who invest in mutual funds.

I have been encouraged by the reform process currently underway at the SEC but without more fundamental reform, many American investors will continue to be misled. Among the many provisions of the MFRA, two can only be accomplished by Congress: tightening the definition of "independent directors" and eliminating "safe harbor" provisions which permit abusive and wasteful "soft dollar" arrangements.

The MFRA empowers a truly independent board of directors capable of exercising the essential "watchdog" role by mandating at least 75% of the board be independent, including the chair. The provisions in the MFRA will work to maintain mutual fund appeal as a flexible and investor-friendly means of lasting, diversified investment. The reforms detailed in the MFRA will put the American shareholders in control. With more than 7 trillion dollars of assets invested in the mutual fund industry, the provisions of the Mutual Fund Reform Act are long overdue.

For more information on the Mutual Fund Reform Act of 2004, please visit my website at <http://gillmor.house.gov>.



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Putting an End to Spam: Preventing Junk Faxes

On June 16, I joined with 23 of my colleagues in sponsoring the Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2004. The important legislation will provide relief of burdensome business demands and unwanted solicitations.

The Telecommunications Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) of 1991 instituted the well-known "Do-Not-Call" provisions as well as language regulating unsolicited commercial faxes. The TCPA had been interpreted by the FCC to exempt business with an existing relationship to continue faxing their customers. However, the FCC revised their interpretation in 2003 to prohibit these faxes without a business receiving written permission from their customers before sending faxes.

As the FCC interpretation would be particularly burdensome on trade associations and non-profit organizations, the FCC delayed the implementation of this rule to provide for legislative action. In response to the FCC action, my colleagues and I introduced the Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2004. Our legislation will make it illegal to send an unsolicited advertisement by fax unless there is an "established business relationship" and the advertisement contains a notice to opt-out of future faxes.

The job of Congress is to maintain the balance between protecting businesses and defending consumers' privacy. The Junk Fax Prevention Act is a great example of providing the protections that all citizens deserve while not damaging honest business practices.



Jobs Action Team: Energy Self Sufficiency Week



Congressman Gillmor chairing a meeting of the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials

Recently, I had the honor of serving as the Issue Manager for the Jobs Action Team's "Energy Self-Sufficiency and Security Week." During this week, the House Republican Conference focused legislative efforts on making the United States more energy independent and ensuring that our national security objectives were not threatened by the lack of affordable energy supplies.

Without a comprehensive energy

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policy the United States becomes increasingly more reliant upon foreign sources of energy. By relying on foreign distributors we not only sacrifice our national security, we are also sacrificing our economic security. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, America loses 12,389 jobs for every billion dollars we spend on imports. At today's oil prices, that means America is sending more than 1.7 million jobs overseas for oil every year. A comprehensive energy policy would stem the tide of job loss and secure our economic preeminence in the world marketplace. The House passed "Energy Bill" would directly create over 800,000 new high quality, well paying jobs. These new jobs are just the "tip of the iceberg" as many other spin-off jobs will be created as businesses grow and the demand for additional labor increases.

Real relief and positive progress has been made by the House of Representatives—the responsibility now falls on the Senate to take the appropriate action necessary to help the United States become more self-sufficient and continue to put Americans back to work. In a world constantly on alert from the threat of global terrorism and the whims of foreign governments, it is foolish that the U.S., with the world's largest economy, relies on foreign entities for over 60% of its energy needs.

Honoring an Important Public Servant: Post Office Naming for Congressman Delbert Latta

On June 14, I was honored to be in Bowling Green to pay tribute to my predecessor in the United States House of Representatives, Congressman Delbert Latta. Del gave thirty years of distinguished service to the people of Ohio's Fifth District.

It was during the previous Congress that I had the idea that it would be appropriate to name the post office building in Bowling Green for Delbert Latta, to honor his dedication and hard work on behalf of the Fifth District. Delbert had his district office in the Bowling Green post office building for most of his long career in Congress.

This Congress I introduced the Delbert L. Latta Post Office bill early in the session, and was pleased when it passed both the House and the Senate, and was signed into law by the President.

Delbert was born in Weston, Ohio in Wood County. He attended Findlay College and Ohio Northern University; and before World War II, from 1938 to 1941, he served in the Ohio National Guard and the U.S. Army. He was in the Marine Corps Reserve from 1942 to 1943. Del was admitted to practice law in



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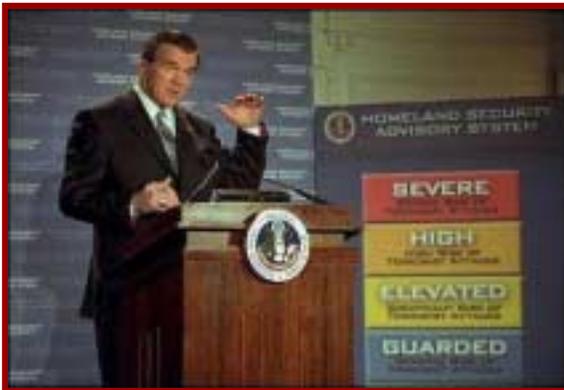
1944. He served later in the Ohio senate for three terms, from 1953 to 1958. In November 1958, Del was elected to the 86th Congress.

During his tenure, he had a number of very important assignments: the Committee on Rules; the Committee on the Budget; where he was ranking minority member; and he also served three terms on the House Committee on Agriculture. Del is well known as the sponsor of the Graham-Latta bill which was a major tax cut bill in the Reagan administration. After deciding not to run for reelection in 1988, Del returned to his hometown of Bowling Green where he remains active in the community.

Among Delbert's many achievements in public service are his involvement in the Watergate hearings and his role as Dean of the Ohio delegation. The character, hard work, and the commitment he brought to public life had a significant effect on our state and on our nation's public policy.

Focus on the Fifth District: Grover Hill Receives Homeland Security Funding

On June 15, I was happy to announce that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness has approved a \$24,828 grant to the Grover Hill Volunteer Fire Department, in Paulding County.



These funds, made available by Congress, will be used to increase the effectiveness of fire fighting operations, fire fighter health and safety programs, new fire apparatus, EMS programs, and Fire Prevention and Safety Programs. 107 grants worth nearly \$6 million in direct assistance to firefighters were awarded during this round of funding.

Homeland Security Secretary Ridge has stated, "President Bush and I strongly support the critical mission of our Nation's firefighters. Through these funds, we will ensure that our Nation's emergency responders have the equipment and training they need to respond to all hazards."

This grant will improve the effectiveness of firefighters in Grover Hill. Firefighters play a critical role ensuring the safety of our communities and these moneys will help to deliver the resources necessary to excel in their mission.

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Economic Development Administration (EDA): City of Crestline and Village of Ottawa Receive Funding

On June 17, I was pleased to announce a \$1.8 million grant to the City of Crestline, in Crawford County, and a \$1.725 million grant to the Village of Ottawa and Putnam County Educational Service Center, from the Economic Development Administration.

In Crestline, the grant will provide for infrastructure improvements to the 133-acre city-owned industrial park and is expected to create 900 jobs and spur \$5.5 million in private investment.

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, David A. Sampson, presented the awards and said, "President Bush is committed to working with local communities to grow the economy, create jobs and encourage investments in local areas."

In Putnam County, the grant will be used to construct a 28,000 square foot multi-use educational service and skilled learning center in Ottawa. The grant is expected to create nearly 100 jobs and contribute significantly to the local economy.

I am happy that our local communities will have these funds available to them. The jobs and economic improvements that this funding will provide are important to the people of the Fifth District.



Drug Free Communities: Important Funding for the Putnam County Educational Service Center

Just last week, I was happy to announce that a \$70,628 grant will be received by the Putnam County Educational Service Center in Ottawa, Ohio. The grant will be awarded to the Putnam County Task Force for Youth to reduce substance abuse among youth and adults; and strengthen collaborative efforts among community groups working with youth and parents.

The goals of the Task Force for Youth will be achieved by implementing the following strategies: increasing collaboration by individuals participating in the coalition; developing consistent messages to community teens regarding the non-use of alcohol and other drugs; disseminating information via media

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Delinquency Prevention's *Drug Free Communities Support Program*.

coverage of coalition events; providing youth leadership opportunities; addressing community-based processes and conduct teacher trainings; and hosting "Parents Who Host Lose the Most" campaign.

This grant is an important step forward in the war on drugs and will help ensure the safety of our children and our schools. The grant comes from the Office of Juvenile Justice and

Welcome to Washington: A Napoleon Native Joins the Ranks of Summer Congressional Pages

This summer I look forward to welcoming Jessica Leigh Moser of Napoleon, Ohio to Washington, DC to participate in the Page program from July 4 through July 24, 2004.

Jessica Moser will be a junior at Napoleon High School this fall where she currently carries a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. She is an honor student, class secretary, member of the drama club, cheerleader, and plays intramural volleyball. Jessica is safety officer of her 4-H club, a 4-H Ohio State Fair award winner, was a participant in the American Cancer Society's *Relay for Life*, and has been active in summer leadership camps.



The page program has been in existence in some form since 1827.

During the summer, the work of a page begins at 9:00 a.m. and extends until 6:30 p.m. or when the House adjourns for the day. House pages may live in the Page Residence Hall near the U.S. Capitol Building.

Jessica's work in and out of school is testament to the character required to be a Congressional Page. I am confident that she brings with her to Washington the morals and ideals of the people of the Fifth District.

For additional information on the Page program, please contact the Tiffin, Ohio office at (419) 448-9016, toll free in Ohio at (800) 541-6446 or on my website at <http://gillmor.house.gov>.

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July Casework Onsites

One of my goals as Congressman is to make sure that casework services are readily available to all my constituents. Unfortunately, the size of our sixteen county district makes travel to my Defiance, Tiffin, or Norwalk offices prohibitive for many. In order to ensure that my staff is accessible to all my constituents, I have scheduled casework onsite in Putnam and Van Wert Counties as follows:



Thursday, July 29, 2004
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Kalida Village Hall
110 South Broad Street
Kalida, Ohio

Thursday, July 29, 2004
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Willshire Village Hall
323 State Street
Willshire, Ohio

If you are in the area, I encourage you to stop by and my staff will be happy to assist you with any problems you are having with the federal government.

Contact Me

If you have any suggestions on topics you would like to see addressed in my monthly updates, require any additional information, or would like to inform me of your views on matters concerning the federal government, please contact me anytime in Washington, DC or in any of my Ohio offices.

If you wish to forward your questions or concerns via U.S. mail, please address your correspondence to one of my Ohio offices as mail sent to the Longworth House Office Building in Washington is subject to a lengthy screening process and may not reach my office in a timely manner.